

# Council Highlights

March 1, 1996  
Roger T. Kimura MD

The HMA Council was called to order by HMA President Carl Lehman MD at 5:31 p.m.

Present: Officers: J. Spangler, President-elect; R. Kimura, Secretary; L. Howard, Treasurer; F. Holschuh, Immediate Past President; AMA Delegates: C. Kam, R. Stodd, AMA Alternate Delegate: A. Kunimoto; Speaker: H.K.W. Chinn; Vice-Speaker and Honolulu County President: P. Blanchette; Component Society Presidents: E. Bade, Hawaii; T. Smith, West Hawaii; Councilors: D. Canete, P. Chinn, P. DeMare, C. Fukino, R. Hollison, M. Shirasu, K. Thorburn, R. Wong, W. Young, J. Betwee, B. Shitamoto, P. Kim, C. Kadooka, A. Bairos; Past Presidents: W. Chang, W. Dang, A. Don, G. Goto, S. Wallach; Young Physician Delegate: C. Goto; HMA Alliance: S. Robinson.

HMA Staff: J. Won, B. Kendro, N. Jones, L. Tong, J. Estioko, P. Kawamoto, A. Rogness-recording secretary.

Minutes: The minutes of the February 2 meeting were approved as circulated.

- Dr Lehman reported: (1) that the Communications Commissioner, Dr Howard, will investigate the possibility of video conference and telephone conferences of HMA meetings; (2) he attended the Chaminade's Presidential Inauguration; (3) he visited Kauai County Medical Society to speak about HMA; (4) he met with the Governor who signed a proclamation for Doctors' Day on March 30; (5) he attended the Hawaiian Open which was sponsored by First Hawaiian Bank; (6) that Dr Roger Kimura and other physicians did a wonderful job at the Great Aloha Health and Fitness Expo; (7) he met with a few resident physicians to activate the Resident Physician Section; (8) that meals for committee meetings are to help physicians get through the hour and they are welcome to eat what is served or eat on their own after the meeting. (9) The Executive Committee voted to oppose a bill proposing a 4% tax on mutual benefit societies.

- The HMA Alliance reported: (1) that they are working on a project called Stop America's Violence Everywhere and will be looking for donations; (2) they are selling a cookbook called *Just What the Doctor Ordered* which will support the Parkinson's Support Group and the Children's Advocacy Center; (3) they are helping to sell books authored by Dr Ruth and Senator Matsuura at \$8 a book or \$50 for 8 books; (4) the Alliance will produce the talent portion of the Distinguished Medical Reporting Awards. They are encouraging physicians to buy a table for the DMRA.

## For Action

- A motion was passed by Council to approve the Public Relations DMRA budget. Any profit from the event will be equally divided between the HMA and the HMA Alliance.

- A motion was passed by Council to support the concept of regional boards where community hospitals are situated.

- Council approved the Annual Meeting Committee's recommendations one to five on the financial aspects of the meeting. The banquet fee will be \$62.50. The travel costs for exhibit booth installers need to be reviewed.

Council also approved the committee's recommendation No 6 that HMA sports events be open only to registered attendees of the HMA Annual Meeting.

A motion was passed by Council to change the name of the

Sunday seminar to *The George H. Mills, MD Symposium* with a subtitle that can be changed annually.

- Council approved the Annual Meeting Ad hoc Committee's recommendation that the HMA Annual Meeting/Arrangements Committee proceed with planning of the 1997 Annual Meeting under the current structure until the results of a proposed membership survey are received and reviewed.

- A motion was passed to support the concept of restoring the funding for general assistance as a basic public health issue.

## Component Society Reports

**Maui.**—Dr Shitamoto reported that Maui County will meet next week.

**Kauai.**—No report.

**West Hawaii.**—Dr Smith reported that a county meeting on the changing health care scene in Hawaii will be held.

**Hawaii.**—Dr Bade had no report.

**Honolulu.**—Dr Blanchette reported that there are several county meetings in the planning process. She showed Council the first issue of *Hawaii Medical News* and thanked Jan Estioko for her assistance. To improve the contents of the newsletter, please contact Jan with articles, etc.

## For Information

**Legislative.**—Dr Howard reported that: (1) the Peer Review bill was held in the Senate Judiciary Committee; (2) the Informed Consent Bill was also held by the Senate Judiciary Committee. The House revision was never heard by the House Judiciary Committee; (3) Immunity for hospitals or health care organizations who contribute medical data information to the Hawaii Health Information Council Inc is likely to pass; (4) a surrogate medical decision maker bill which allows family members or partners to serve as the surrogate decision maker; passed out of Senate and will go to the House.

Dr Kam reported on the Workers' Compensation Administration bill that calls for a managed care system for Workers' Comp. HMA gave testimony in favor of alternate ways of providing health care. The progress of the bill will be monitored.

**SHPDA.**—Dr Holschuh introduced Marilyn Matsunaga, acting administrator for SHPDA. She is interested in cutting red tape and streamlining. In the last few months a test case was done to see how fast the agency can process a standard CON application. It was done in two months. She is hoping to implement this as the standard for the agency. She looks at SHPDA as one place where community grass roots people can have access to providers in a fair and consistently formal atmosphere. Some physicians at Council did not agree with her and she will be forwarded a copy of the Florida review which says that SHPDA allows the formation of cartels, etc.

**Credential Verification Service (CVS).**—Dr Lehman reported the CVS Committee is working on options. A phone conference is planned for March 5 with CIVS. The CVS Board will also address the control of data.

**Hawaii Health Foundation.**—Dr Shintani is forming a group and was funded \$300,000 to study the diets of Hawaiians and health problems in Hawaii.

The meeting was adjourned at 8 pm.